COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
**Special Joint Committee on Redistricting**
**MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL COURT**

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To the Citizens of Massachusetts:

Once again, we would like to thank everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to participate in this redistricting process. The Committee has actively encouraged participation from public interest groups, concerned citizens, and federal, state and municipal officials.

On October 18, 2011, we made the House and Senate redistricting maps available and asked for the public's comment before the Special Joint Committee on Redistricting voted the bill out of committee. You responded with a number of suggestions that we incorporated into the final maps. Because of your input, we believe our end product was better and even more representative of the many different faces of Massachusetts.

We now ask for your help again. Please give us your comments and suggestions on the draft map for the United States House of Representatives. We will evaluate your proposals over the next three days before the Committee makes a recommendation to the General Court. A public comment period on the draft Congressional maps is the first time this has been done in Massachusetts and is an important component in what many have described as the most open, inclusive, and transparent redistricting process in the history of the state.

We believe that the draft Congressional maps incorporate many of the ideas presented to the Committee during the 31 hours of testimony given by over 400 groups and individuals at 13 public hearings and the 120 comments that people submitted through our website.

Thank you, once again, for the help and advice that you have given us during this very important process.

Sincerely,

Stanley C. Rosenberg
Senate Chair

Michael J. Moran
House Chair